

Official Minutes for Webb County Commissioners Court Meeting

Tuesday, January 09, 2007 at 1:00 PM
(APPROVED JANUARY 22, 2007)

- Item No. 1. Call to order by Judge Danny Valdez
Let it be remembered that a regular meeting of the Webb County Commissioners Court was held at 1:00 p.m. at the regular meeting place with the following members present to wit:

Danny Valdez	County Judge
Frank Sciaraffa	Commissioner, Pct. 1
Rosaura "Wawi" Tijerina	Commissioner, Pct. 2
Jerry Garza	Commissioner, Pct. 3
Sergio "Keko" Martinez	Commissioner, Pct. 4

Thus constituting a quorum, the Commissioners Court proceeded to act upon the Agenda as posted in the meeting notice of the 5th of January 2007. Present also were Mrs. Imelda Diaz, Deputy County Clerk representing Mrs. Margie Ramirez Ibarra, Ex-officio Clerk of the Commissioners Court, various officers and others interested in the business of the Court.

- Item No. 2. ROLL CALL BY Mrs. Kristina Guerra, Assistant Chief Deputy

- Item No. 3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

- Item No. 4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR DECEMBER 11, 2006 AND JANUARY 01, 2007

Cmr. Tijerina motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

- Item No. 5. APPROVAL OF BILLS, PAYROLL AND MONTHLY REPORTS

Mr. Leo Flores, County Auditor, explained the monthly report (copy filed at County Clerks Office). He stated that on pages 1-3 were invoices that exceeded \$5000.00 and if there were any questions to feel free to ask him. He explained that on pgs 4-8 were all the funds that the County had beginning with the General Fund which was exceeding at 17.37%. He explained that the report also included a summary of all revenues and expenditures as well as activity on revenue. He stated that there was an explanation on the grants that the County is currently participating in. Mr. Flores mentioned that there was information on the bank activities on the revenue which was provided by the Treasurer's department. He stated that there was also a description of the bonds for the different years. He mentioned that there was also an explanation on the jail revenues and expenditures. Mr. Flores mentioned that the sales tax revenue explanation was up to the end of November. He explained that there was an explanation on projected revenues for all departments as well as an explanation whether they are over or under budgeted. He mentioned to the Court that this information is provided so that the Court can ask the departments if any help is needed due to them being under budget. Mr. Flores stated that there was information on employees who have not turned in receipts for travel funds disbursed to them.

Cmr. Sciaraffa asked if the employees were advised that they are pending supporting documentation for the specific travel. Cmr. Tijerina asked what is being done to collect these monies. Mr. Flores explained that they have been notified and that he wanted to see if they could do automatic deduction from the next pay period for the employees not providing documentation. Judge Valdez asked Mr. Flores to start working on a procedure to collect these monies from employees. Cmr. Tijerina stated that if the procedure could be brought up in an item for next meeting. Mr. Flores stated that last on his report was a report from the Public Defender's Office and the cell phone usage.

Cmr. Garza motioned to approved item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 6. COMMUNICATIONS

Cmr. Sciaraffa had no communications.

Cmr. Tijerina stated that she was looking forward to working with all Commissioners, Judge Valdez, Webb County employees, and the City of Laredo. She stated that her doors were open to discuss any issues or concerns.

Cmr. Garza welcomed everyone and all Veterans present. He stated that he was looking forward to working with everyone.

Cmr. Martinez welcomed everyone present. He introduced his staff which is Mary Lou Mata and Dr. Patricia Lozano. He stated that he was looking forward to working with everyone.

Judge Valdez stated that he was very excited and was looking forward with working with all Commissioners. He stated that he was for stability, respect, and accountability. He stated that he was very excited to start making a difference in the community. He welcomed all Veterans present. He mentioned that he was punctual, committed, and emphasizes respect to the public and the public to the Court. He introduced Ms. Yolanda Carrillo, Mr. Blas Garza, and Chief of Staff Mr. Leroy Medford. He mentioned that Mr. Medford knows the people in the County and the issues that the County faces.

Item No. 7. Public Comment-This section provides the public the opportunity to address the Commissioners Court on any items on the Agenda. Members of the public wishing to participate must complete a Witness Card specifying which agenda item they wish to comment on. Each public member will be allowed a total of three (3) minutes within which to make any/all public comments.

1st witness card – Kristina Ramirez Guerra (County Clerks Office)

Mrs. Kristina Ramirez Guerra stated that on behalf of Mrs. Margie Ramirez Ibarra she would like to remind everyone submitting documentation supporting an agenda item to submit a copy to the County Clerks Office for recording purpose. She introduced Mrs. Imelda Diaz, Commissioner's Court Secretary. She mentioned that Mrs. Diaz was available for any questions regarding Commissioner's Court minutes as well as Mrs. Ibarra.

2nd witness card - Dr. Clifford Black – Sheriff's Department

Mr. Clifford Black stated that immediately following Sheriff Rick Flores's election; he emphasized his intention was to create a 2004 Transition Team. He stated that Mr. Flores has always wanted to implement Civil Service at the Sheriff's Department. He stated that for agenda item 11 the state requirements have been met. He urged the Court to pass the Resolution on Item 11 and approve item 62 on the agenda.

3rd witness card – Marissa G. Martinez – Good Government League

Mrs. Marissa G. Martinez stated that Agenda Item 16 was somewhat vague and does not give the taxpayer enough information on what action the Court would be taking. She stated that she is concerned that the Open Meeting Act could be violated. She stated that this item should be given additional time being that it appeared that it could cause a conflict of interest. She stated

that she has been advised that the Planning Department was to be under the Economic Development. She explained that the only problem is that Economic Development is for the sole purpose of bringing in money to the community and this would affect especially the Colonia residents. She stated that the Planning Department is regulatory and they make sure that all rules are followed. She stated that if the Planning Department was to be brought under the Economic Development then a Regulatory has been created under a Subordinate. She stated to the Court that before proceeding with the item that the Attorney General's Office and the Texas Water Development Board should be contacted to have their opinion.

4th witness card – Herminio Martinez – Laredo Veterans
Mr. Herminio Martinez thanked the Court for everything they do.

5th witness card – Arturo Tijerina – Laredo Veterans
Mr. Arturo Tijerina stated that he was present as a Veteran and as a taxpayer. He mentioned that recently the County purchased a facility for the Laredo Veteran's Coalition from the Farias Family. He stated that after talking to Asst. County Attorney Nathan Bratton he said that the building did not belong to the Veterans but to the County. He stated that it was very frustrating for him to hear that the Veterans donated the building to the County. He mentioned that this lack of integrity is not accepted. He asked the Court that they pay close attention to what the Veterans come and ask for and possibly have public hearings.

6th witness card – Rene De La Vina – Civil Rights/Civil Service
Mr. Rene De La Vina congratulated the Court. Mr. De La Vina stated that this Court was much more employee friendly. He stated that before County employees had been politically abused and fired for the wrong reasons and some for the right reasons. He stated that if Civil Service could not be implemented right now that something similar be done. He asked the Court if the meeting could be moved to the evenings so that way the public has an opportunity to come to the meetings. He thanked Judge Valdez for helping to form a coalition that helped mental retardation kids. He stated that better things were going to happen in the County with the new Court.

Item No. 8. Discussion and possible action to approve the following changes for personnel of the Webb County Judge's Office effective January 1, 2007. The salary increases are equal to the salary decreases and the amount of personnel costs budgeted for fiscal year 2006-2007 remain unchanged.

	From:	To:
Slot 0069 Executive Secretary	53,211.00	58,540.00
Slot 0068 Court Administrator	49,384.00	40,010.00
Slot 1708 Administrative Technician	36,715.00	40,010.00
Slot 2262 Administrative Secretary	32,826.00	33,576.00
Total:	172,136.00	172,136.00

Mr. Leroy Medford introduced himself to everyone. He stated that he was looking forward to working with all department heads and employees. Cmr. Garza asked what was the reasoning in the decreases and increases in salary. Judge Valdez explained that the Executive Secretary has been working with the County for over 27 years and that both the Administrative Technician and Secretary had also been employed with the County for a long time.

Cmr. Tijerina motioned to approved item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 9. Discussion and possible action to approve the following changes in title for personnel of the Webb County Judge's Office effective January 1, 2007.

Slot No. 0067- Chief of Staff

Title changed to Executive Administrator

Judge Valdez stated that Chief of Staff is more for the Military and said that he would like the title changed back to original title which was Executive Administrator. Cmr. Tijerina recommended that it should read Executive Administrator to County Judge.

Judge Valdez motioned to change title to Executive Administrator to County Judge. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 10. Discussion and possible action to amend current order of the commissioners court regarding meeting dates, by adjusting times of certain meetings.

Mr. Leroy Medford stated that at the beginning of the meeting there was a gentleman speaking in reference to the time of the meetings. Judge Valdez stated that he would like the first meeting of the month to be at 9:00 a.m. and the last meeting to be at 5:00 p.m.

Cmr. Tijerina motioned to approve amendment of meetings. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 11. Discussion and possible action to approve a Resolution for the introduction and support of proposed State Legislation by Senator Judith Zaffirini, Representative Richard Raymond and representative Ryan Guillen to authorize Webb County to adopt a Civil Service System, and to clarify and confirm Webb County's authority to construct an International Rail Bridge.

Cmr. Tijerina asked if a Resolution was required or if the only requirement was a population of over 200,000. Cmr. Martinez stated that under Section 158 under the Government Code that was the requirement, however, he stated that the Court should get the Attorney's opinion. Mr. Homero Ramirez, County Attorney, stated that the appropriate thing to do was to pass a Resolution. He stated that the Resolution should be pending Legislation regarding the population and for the building of a Rail Bridge his suggestion was to ask Legislation so that they can make it clear as to the authority that the County has.

Cmr. Tijerina motioned to approve Resolution pending the population issue with Legislation. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 12. Discussion and possible action to appoint Mrs. Virginia Aranda as interim director of the Webb County Public Defender's Office, and directing the Administrative Services Department to commence advertising for Requests for Qualifications for a director.

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item and asked how many days would she be appointed. Mr. Leroy Medford stated that depending on how many days it took for the Administrative Services Department for the Qualifications. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion and asked if the qualifications would be brought to the Court for approval. Mr. Medford said yes.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 13. Discussion and possible action to appoint (by majority vote) two members of the commissioner's court to the Webb County Purchasing Board, as required by

Section 262.011, Local Government Code, said appointments to be effective immediately.

Judge Valdez motioned to appoint Cmr. Frank Sciaraffa and Cmr. Sergio "Keko" Martinez to the Purchasing Board. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 14. Discussion and possible action to appoint (by majority vote) one member of the commissioner's court to the Webb County Indigent (Pre-Trial) Committee.

Judge Valdez motioned to appoint Cmr. Frank Sciaraffa. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 15. Discussion and possible action to create a County-City Projects and Programs Coordinating committee comprised of members of the commissioner's court and/or their designee's who will resolve to work together on matters of mutual interest and benefit to the residents of our community.

Judge Valdez explained that this was a committee that would also be made by the City. He stated that this committee would meet and report back to the Court on projects and programs. Judge Valdez motioned to appoint Cmr. Rosaura "Wawi" Tijerina, Cmr. Jerry Garza, Mr. Homero Ramirez, Mr. Leroy Medford, and Mr. Juan Vargas. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

**Item No. 16. Discussion and possible action to amend Webb County's Administrative Organizational Structure by reclassifying various slots as follows:
No. 0862 Administrative Services to Social & Administrative Services Director
No. 0015 Economic Development to Community & Economic Development Director
No. 1298 County Engineer to Infrastructure, Engineering & Maintenance Director
No. 2063 Executive Administrator to Public Services Director**

Mr. Leroy Medford stated that the recommendation was to table item.

Cmr. Tijerina motioned to table item. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 17. Discussion and possible action to appoint a director to the Rio Bravo Community Center, and designate salary for said director.

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to appoint Ms. Virginia Ibarra currently working at the CAA with a salary of \$38,745.00 of what is budgeted. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 18. Discussion and possible action to accept a donation in the amount of One Hundred

Dollars (\$100.00) from Medina Electric Cooperative, Inc. for the Bruni Community Center Account #001-2100-04.

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 19. Status report on Conditions of County Roads as a result of recent rains from the Road & Bridge Superintendent and the County Engineer.

Cmr. Tijerina stated that she is a proactive person and is involved with what is happening in the community especially The Colonias.

Mr. Jose Luis Ramos, Road & Bridge Superintendent, and Mr. Tomas Rodriguez, County Engineer, gave status report to the Court. Mr. Ramos presented a report which reflected the roads who had damages due to recent rain which were the Colonias 359 area, San Carlos I & II, and Los Altos and would be fixed within the regular schedule. He stated that Ramos Industries are laying water lines so they would be able to fix these roads till they are finished. Cmr. Tijerina asked if it was the County's obligation to make sure roads are fixed being that Ramos Industries are destroying the roads. Mr. Rodriguez stated that when Ramos Industries excavates the roads they are to put them back in the same condition; however, since they are excavating deep down into the sewer and water lines the County will be working together with them so that they leave preparations for the next phase that come later. Cmr. Martinez asked what the time frame was for the completion. Mr. Rodriguez stated that the City is the one in charge of the project; however, Ramos Industries was ahead of project and should be finished with the next three months. Mr. Ramos mentioned to the Court that as soon as there is any rain, they start accessing all the roads and place priority to those that have the most damage. Mr. Ramos stated that there were a lot of private roads within the County and nothing can be done to them without and emergency Court approval. Cmr. Sciaraffa asked if Las Presas back road was near where the buses go through. Mr. Ramos said yes and that an emergency agenda item needed to be placed in order to access this road. Cmr. Tijerina stated she received a call from one of her constituents stating that there were also having problems with one of the roads of Las Pilas. She asked if an emergency agenda item would be needed as well. Mr. Ramos acknowledged yes. Mr. Rodriguez stated that he would prepare a letter to the County Attorney declaring a state of emergency and then the County Attorney would present the issue to Commissioner's Court. He stated that in Las Pilas they are in the process of concluding a survey for the first two miles so that they could acquire a 50 feet road so that it could be declared a County Road and in the future does not need approval for fixing.

Judge Valdez stated that these roads are important issues and that all rural areas should have the same benefits as the inner areas. Cmr. Tijerina thanked Mr. Ramos and Mr. Rodriguez for providing status report.

Cmr. Sciaraffa asked Mr. Ramos if in the Mangana Hein road they were going five miles at the end of where the pavement is at. Mr. Ramos said yes.

Item No. 20. Discussion and possible action to provide up to 4,000.00 for equipment and supplies for the American Legion Post 59 details assigned to provide services to deceased veterans at funerals. Funding will be monitored and allocated through the Webb County Veterans Service Office and the 2006 Bond Series Capital Outlay line item. (Co-sponsored by Commissioner Rosaura Tijerina)

Cmr. Garza motioned to approve item as submitted and that no funds would be disbursed until a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) approved by Commissioner's Court.

Cmr. Martinez asked if the equipment and supplies were shotguns that were going to be provided to the American Legion. Cmr. Garza stated that it would be for equipment to provide the services at the funeral.

Cmr. Martinez thanked the Veterans from the American Legion.

Comr. Tijerina seconded the motion and commended the Veterans for a job well done. Comr. Garza stated that these funds would be monitored by the Veterans Services office from the County.

Mr. Ramirez stated that the MOU would be brought before the next Commissioners Court meeting and no funds to be disbursed till MOU is approved.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 21. Discussion and possible action to set the indigent burial rate at 1,000.00.

Comr. Garza stated that there was discussion with the funeral homes directors concerning how much the County was willing to pay for the indigent burials. He said that Mr. Salinas was asked to do a market analysis on what was fair to pay and came back with an amount of \$1000.00. Comr. Garza mentioned that he did not include the burial for juveniles and babies which were increased from \$400.00 to \$500.00. He stated that it would be included in the next meeting.

Comr. Garza motioned to approve item as submitted. Comr. Tijerina seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 22. Discussion and possible action to transfer \$12,991 from employee slot #1596 in Commissioner Pct. 4 budget to a part-time line item in the same amount in the same department.

Comr. Martinez stated that he wanted \$30,000.00 for slot #1596 and the remaining balance of \$12,991.00 for a part time slot. Comr. Garza asked if this slot was to remain as part time for next year. Comr. Martinez said yes.

Comr. Martinez motioned to approved item as submitted. Comr. Tijerina seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 23. Status report on Veterans Historical Museum including title survey performed and any possible action. Executive Session is requested pursuant to Texas Government Code Title 5, Subchapter D, Section 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney).

Comr. Sergio "Keko" Martinez stated to the Court that he would like a status report on the survey that was conducted. Judge Valdez called on Mr. Homero Ramirez, County Attorney.

Mr. Homero Ramirez stated that he would like to discuss this item in Executive Session. Comr. Martinez stated that he had requested Executive Session; however, he stated that he was not going to discuss any legal actions and just would like to ask some questions. Comr. Martinez asked if in fact the County purchased a piece of property for the Veterans Coalition. Mr. Ramirez said yes. Comr. Martinez asked from whom the Veterans purchased the property from. Mr. Ramirez stated that it was his understanding that it was purchased from the The Farias Family. Comr. Martinez asked what the outcome of the survey requested by Commissioner's Court was. Mr. Ramirez stated that it indicated a slight encroachment of the building unto an adjacent property and advised that was all he would mention in public. Comr. Martinez asked what date the survey was completed. Mr. Ramirez stated that the survey was certified by the surveyor on December 06, 2006. Comr. Martinez asked to whom the survey was delivered. Mr. Ramirez stated that he does not have that information. Comr. Martinez asked when the County became aware of the encroachment problem. Mr. Ramirez stated that he would imagine when the survey was received. Comr. Martinez asked who became aware of the problem. Mr. Ramirez stated that the problem is evident from the survey. Mr. Ramirez stated that Mr. Nathan Bratton, Assistant County Attorney, mentioned that there had been a discussion with the County Auditor and as a result a memo was sent out to the Commissioners. Comr. Martinez asked what day was the memo sent. Mr. Ramirez stated that it was December 18th. Comr. Martinez asked when the funds were disbursed by the County. Mr. Ramirez stated that the settlement documents indicate the closing date of December 21st. Comr. Martinez said that it was mentioned that Mr. Leo Flores was aware of the encroachment problem. Mr. Ramirez said that was what was made aware to him by Mr. Nathan Bratton. Comr. Martinez asked what attorney was representing the Veteran's Coalition. Mr. Ramirez stated that he had no

knowledge of that. Cmr. Martinez asked if at anytime Mr. Ramirez or anyone from the County Attorney's office ever represented the Veterans. Mr. Ramirez said not that he was aware and that they could only represent the County. Cmr. Martinez asked who handled the transaction or if Mr. Carlos Villarreal, Executive Administrator, was involved in the transaction. Mr. Ramirez stated that there were various individuals involved in the transaction as instructed by Commissioner's Court. Cmr. Martinez asked if Texas Law authorizes the County Auditor to refuse to pay any bills. Mr. Ramirez stated that he has limited authority on what he can refuse to pay. Cmr. Martinez asked to whom the memo was issued. Mr. Nathan Bratton, Assistant County Attorney, stated that it was issued to the County Judge, Chief of Staff, and Mr. Carlos Villarreal. Cmr. Martinez asked if it was issued to any other Commissioner. Mr. Bratton stated that it was issued to each of the Commissioners. Cmr. Martinez asked if in the memo there was a request to cease any monies for the purchase until all matters were cleared up. Mr. Bratton stated no. Mr. Ramirez stated that they were under no authority to do that because the transaction was an "As Is Transaction" and it was made clear by the Commissioner's Court at the time. Mr. Ramirez stated that any type of encroachment would be a bar to proceeding with purchase, however, in this case the transaction was an "As Is". Cmr. Martinez asked if Mr. Ramirez or Mr. Bratton ever recommended to the County not to make the purchase. Mr. Ramirez stated that recommendations are made; however, it is up to the Court to do as they wish. Cmr. Martinez asked if Mr. Ramirez recommended to the Court to purchase the property. Mr. Ramirez said he would not recommend or have never recommended acquiring without a survey. Cmr. Martinez stated to Mr. Ramirez that he is still waiting for the Real Estate Contract between the Farias Family and the Veteran's Coalition. Mr. Ramirez said as soon as he gets the contract he will forward copy to Cmr. Martinez.

Cmr. Garza asked how long has the encroachment existed in this property. Mr. Ramirez stated that from the information he has it has been there way beyond the average possession statute. Cmr. Tijerina asked if there is an encroachment what can be done to fix the problem. Mr. Ramirez stated that he would like to discuss this in executive session.

Cmr. Garza motioned to go into executive session. Cmr. Tijerina seconded the motion.

Cmr. Martinez motioned to table any action until all relevant documentations is received. Cmr. Garza stated that he would like to go into Executive Session and consult with the attorney and does not mean that any action would be taken. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

EXECUTIVE SESSION (2:24 p.m. TO 2:33 p.m.)

Judge Valdez stated that no action was taken. Mr. Ramirez stated that the Court could proceed with the other items.

MEDIA BREAK

Cmr. Sergio "Keko" Martinez asked Mr. Leo Flores, County Auditor if anyone from the County told him not to make or disburse any payment because of the encroachment problem. Mr. Flores stated that no one told him not to make a payment.

Cmr. Garza motioned to move up item # 58, 62, 63, 64, and 65. Cmr. Tijerina seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Cmr. Sciaraffa asked Mr. Flores to address item #24 first.

Item No. 24. Discussion and possible action to approve payroll changes to the personnel budget of the 49th District Court that will not exceed the adopted budget and to transfer any excess funds to a part-time line item to pay an employee from the previous administration that is on official military leave.

Slot #	From:	To:
0152 - Court Reporter	38.54 / hour	35.22 / hour
0153 - Bailiff	21.53 / hour	20.43 / hour

0154 - Criminal Docket Coordinator	24.87 / hour	21.63 / hour
0155 - Civil Docket Coordinator	2,049.86bi-weekly	2,000.00 bi-weekly
0156 - Office Manager	20.93 / hour	21.63 / hour
0157 - Receptionist`	14.29 / hour	15.47 / hour
0799 - Bailiff	20.85 / hour	20.43 / hour
0804 - Secretary Typist	12.94 / hour	15.47 / hour

Personnel Budget Prior to Changes = \$ 377,209.00

Personnel Budget After Changes = \$ 377,182.52

He stated that the employee who is on Military Leave has to be paid from the regular budget and the employee who replaces that person has to be the one on part time. Mr. Leo Flores explained that there were some corrections on the slot number titles. He stated that for the Civil Docket Coordinator it should read Court Administrator, the Office Manager should be Civil Docket Coordinator, the Receptionist and Secretary Typist should be Court Administrative Assistants.

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item. Cmr. Tijerina seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 58. Discussion and possible action to authorize the purchasing agent to purchase Audio Video System in the amount \$61,388.51 from VSGL through the MICTA state contract number 0710MSC-A-0036 for the 49th Judicial District Court. FUND: Certificates of Obligations Series 2006.

Mr. Eloy Ramirez, Purchasing Agent, stated that this system is similar to what the Court has and would be available for all other Judges to utilize.

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Tijerina seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 62. Discussion and possible action to implement new employee policies for the Webb County Sheriff's Department.

Mr. Rick Flores, County Sheriff, congratulated the Court in the adoption of the Resolution for the implementation of Civil Service which included the Sheriff's office. He stated to the Court that even while attending to the crucial problems inherited from the previous administration; the department has been committed to providing the highest quality of public safety to the community. Mr. Flores mentioned that now the Sheriff's Department was now focusing on employee moral, job security, and the crucial importance in hiring/firing and job promotions.

Cmr. Tijerina asked who was going to be implementing the policies and if Court approval was necessary to which Sheriff Flores responded that it was the same thing that the Court had already moved on regarding the Resolution pending Legislation issue. Sheriff Flores stated that he could implement Civil Service without waiting for Legislation and follow only what the Local Government states. Cmr. Garza asked if the implementation of Civil Service for the Sheriff's Office required a certain population and if item could be approved without knowing the outcome of the proposed Legislation. Sheriff Flores stated that in talking to the Court Attorney, he had advised him that they would fall under the Resolution that had just been previously adopted by the Court. Cmr. Martinez commended the Sheriff for a good job that he has done and for wanting to implement Civil Service in his department; however, he told him that the Court wants it to be implemented throughout the whole County departments. Mr. Tom Sanchez, Sheriff's Department, advised the Court that there was no provision that prohibited the Court from taking any action if the action made stated that it was pending Legislation issue concerning population. Cmr. Garza mentioned that this is a great step for the Sheriff's Department and eventually for Webb County as a whole. Sheriff Flores asked the Court for approval of Civil Service to the Sheriff's Department which by them doing this they would set precedent in Webb County.

Cmr. Garza motioned to approve item subject to any legislative changes. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 63. Discussion and possible action to authorize the submission of a grant application for a 2006-2007 Operation Linebacker (BJA-Byrne Discretionary Grant Project No. 2006-DD-BX-0504) grant program from the Department of Justice Office of Justice Programs Bureau of Justice Assistance in the amount of \$781,754.50 and authorizing the County Judge to act as the County's authorized official. This grant requires no match and thus is at no cost to the County.

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Tijerina seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 64. Discussion and possible action of approval to grant County Auditor, authority to expend funds from the South Texas HIDTA Laredo Initiative for FY 2007, effective January 1, 2007 and to end on December 31, 2007.

Cmr. Garza motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 65. Discussion and possible action to purchase and install a Webb County electronic system for video arraignments, remote testimony, psychiatric consultations, judicial appeals and other related legal purposes such as enabling greater communications, minimizing prisoner security risks and curtailing travel time for inmate transportation. (several fund accounts: Sheriff, Justices of the Peace and 406th District Court Judge)

Sheriff Flores thanked Judge Oscar Hale, Judge Joe Lopez, Visual Systems Group, Inc, Eluid Diaz Cortez, Ray Lara, and all Justices of the Peace. Mr. Raymond Lara, Sheriff's Department IT Analyst, stated that the idea of Video Conferencing was brought about two years ago; however, this was the day that it could become reality and by doing this communication could take place with anyone across the world. He stated that the advantages of Video Conferencing were that it would reduce cost of transportation, decrease in jail population, and/or magistrates could happen more than once a day.

Video Presentation by Visual Systems Group, Inc.

Cmr. Tijerina stated that she was very familiar with the Video Conferencing because of her experience at the college; however, she asked how much would the cost be. Mr. Lara explained that there would be a one time cost of \$25,000.00 per unit and each department would purchase their own unit through their Technological Fund and the Sheriff through the Forfeiture Fund. He further explained that any department not having enough funds for the purchase, Judge Oscar Martinez would transfer unto to them from his funds. Mr. Lara explained to Cmr. Sciaraffa that \$177,000.00 was the total amount for eight units. Cmr. Garza asked if multiple vendors were sought to see who provided the best product to Webb County; to what Mr. Lara said that this company was the one who provided the best quality.

Cmr. Garza motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Cmr. Sciaraffa asked Mr. Leo Flores to bring back a report as to who were the Justices of the Peace who did not have enough funds. Mr. Rafael Perez, Chief Deputy Auditor, reported that it would be \$70, 791.00 plus \$25,000.00 for his unit totaling \$105,000.00 that Judge Martinez would transfer to Judge Oscar Liendo, Judge Hector Liendo, Judge Alfredo Garcia, and Judge Ramiro Veliz.

Item No. 40. Discussion and possible action to transfer \$20,000 from employee slot #2232 in the Medical Examiner & Morgue to a part-time line item in the same amount in the same department.

Ms. Corrine Stern, County Medical Examiner, stated that the prior administration awarded her department one full time position; however, she would like to see it split up into two part time positions. She stated that this would save County money in the fringe benefits. Cmr. Sciaraffa asked if money had already been allocated. Ms. Stern said yes.

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Tijerina seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 51. Discussion and possible action for the Commissioners Court to approve a cellular phone for Dr. Corrine Stern, Medical Examiner for the County of Webb under the national plan for 1350 minutes from Verizon Wireless.

Cmr. Garza motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 60. Discussion and possible action to authorize the purchasing agent to purchase the following equipment for the Morgue operations: FUND: Certificates of Obligations Series 2006, Dr. Corinne E. Stern, Medical Examiner.

Description	Vendor	Amount
E-Studio 352 copier	OCS-Toshiba	\$ 7,019.34
Buyboard#231-05		
(2) Stretcher	Southland Medical	\$ 4,986.00
Assorted Shelving	Grainger	\$ 1,586.26
Platform Scales	Arlyn Scales	\$ 1,634.00
Desktop computer	SCW	\$ 788.81
Photo Color Printer	SCW	\$ 519.12
Grand Total		\$16,533.53

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 25. Discussion and possible action to grant authorization to the County Auditor to expend funds from the WCCAA Comprehensive Energy Assistance Program (CEAP) and Community Social Services Block Grant (CSBG), effective January 1, 2007, pending the receipt of all required grant documents.

Mr. Mike Kazen, CAA Director, explained that these were funds pending by the State in which he has been unofficially told that he will be receiving pending some signatures. He said the for the CEAP grant it was a total of \$494,000.00 and for the CSBG grant it was \$183,000.00 pending a continuing Resolution from Washington. Cmr. Garza asked Mr. Kazen if he felt comfortable that he would be getting these funds in which Mr. Kazen said yes and there might be a slight increment in the amount. Mr.

Kazen added that these programs work on a reimbursement process.

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Tijerina seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 26. Discussion and possible action to approve the submission of FY 2007 Grant Application Part II to the Texas Department of Transportation for the second installment of a grant for El Aguila rural mass transportation in a total amount not to exceed TWO HUNDRED SEVENTY THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED EIGHTEEN DOLLARS (\$270,918.00) and authorizing the County Judge to sign all relevant documents.

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 27. Discussion and possible action to enter into contract amendment number one (1) to the rural transportation federal fund grant agreement No. RPT 0702(22) with the State of Texas, acting through the Texas Department of Transportation, wherein Webb County accepts an increase of EIGHTEEN THOUSAND FOUR HUNDRED TWENTY ONE AND FIFTY ONE DOLLARS (\$18,421.51) to the original grant amount of THREE HUNDRED EIGHTEEN THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED FIFTY FIVE AND FIFTY ONE DOLLARS (\$318, 855.51) for the "El Aguila" rural mass transportation program and authorizing the County Judge to sign all relevant documents.

Cmr. Garza motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 28. Discussion and possible action to accept TWO THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$2,500.00) from TXU Energy Retail Company to be used to help families that are in financial distress to meet energy related costs essential to their health and welfare.

Cmr. Garza motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Tijerina seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 57. Discussion and possible action to authorize the purchasing agent to solicit bids for repairs at the Justice Center Tax Office.

Cmr. Garza motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Tijerina seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Cmr. Sciaraffa asked if these repairs were already budgeted. Mr. Eloy Ramirez stated that there was \$40,000.00.

Item No. 66. Discussion and possible action to approve a refund in the amount of \$6,399.27 to Grothues Financial LTD. [Reason apply agriculture use]

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Mrs. Patricia Barrera, Tax Assessor Collector, asked permission to speak being that she arrived late and could not speak during the Public Comments and provided the Court with comparisons of last years numbers to this years numbers during the County Holidays. She stated that even though the offices were closed the community was taken care of.

Cmr. Tijerina, Martinez, and Judge Valdez commended Ms. Barrera on a job well done.

Item No. 29. Discussion and possible action to enter into a one (1) year (November 1, 2006 thru October 31, 2007) training agreement with the American Red Cross for first aid training materials for an annual amount of ONE THOUSAND FOUR HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$1,400.00) and authorizing the County Judge to sign all relevant documents. [Requested by Head Start; Account No. (State Funded Training)]

Cmr. Garza motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 30. Discussion and possible action to enter into a Vendor Agreement between Webb County for the Community Action Agency and Center Point Energy for the "Comprehensive Energy Assistance Program" whereby Center Point Energy will provide funding to Webb County Community Action Agency constituents to pay home energy expenses for a term beginning January 1, 2007 and ending on December 31, 2008 and authorizing the County Judge to execute all relevant documents. [Requested by Community Action Agency]

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 31. Discussion and possible action to enter into Mental Health Service Agreements for Children enrolled in the Webb County Head Start Program for a period of twenty-four (24) months, beginning August 1, 2006 through July 31, 2008 at reduced fees as set forth in the agreements, with the following Service Providers: Laura H. Gomez, M.S. M.A. Sara Cabello Thompson, M.A., L.P.C. and authorizing an exemption from section 262.023 Local Government Code (Competitive Bidding and Competitive Proposal Requirements) and authorizing the County Judge to execute all relevant documents.[Requested by Head Start]

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Tijerina seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 32. Discussion and possible action to enter into an Equipment Maintenance Agreement with Office Communications Systems, Inc. for one (1) Toshiba ES-352 Digital Photocopier Machine for the Floyd's Kitchen Head Start for a twelve (12) month period (October 1, 2006 through September 30, 2007) with a monthly base rate of

TWENTY-FIVE DOLLARS (\$25.00) PER MONTH OR THREE HUNDRED DOLLARS OVER THE TERM OF THE LEASE including NO copies per month AND \$0.0077000 overage and authorizing the County Judge to sign all relevant documents. [Requested by Head Start Account No. 903-4208-6014 (Equipment Rental)].

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Tijerina seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 33. Discussion and possible action to approve a 457(b) Governmental Plan Document with Nationwide Retirement Solutions, Inc. as the plan administrator and where Webb County serves as the Plan Sponsor for Webb County employees currently participating and those wishing to participate in Nationwide's 457(b) Deferred Compensation Plan and authorizing the Webb County Judge to execute all relevant documents. [Requested by Administrative Services Department]

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Tijerina seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 34. Discussion and possible action to enter into a twelve month (September 1, 2006 thru September 1, 2007) Annual Maintenance Grant Contract with Office of the Attorney General of Texas (OAG) for Texas VINE grant contract No. 07-03592 for an total over twelve months of THIRTY THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED EIGHT DOLLARS (\$30,108.00) and authorizing the County Judge to sign all relevant documents. [Requested by Sheriff; Account No. 321-2001-3501 (Texas VINE Revenue)]

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 35. Discussion and possible action to enter into an Equipment Maintenance Agreement with Office Communications Systems, Inc. for one (1) Toshiba ES-720 Digital Photocopier Machine for the District Attorney for a twelve (12) month period (January 23, 2007 through January 22, 2008) with a monthly base rate of FIFTEEN DOLLARS (\$15.00) PER MONTH including no copies per month and \$0.006500 ea. overage and authorizing the County Judge to sign all relevant documents. [Requested by Engineer Account No. 001-1100-6402 (Equipment Maintenance)].

Cmr. Garza motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 36. Discussion and possible action to enter into Third Party Funding Agreement for the Mercy Ministries of Laredo in the amount of ONE HUNDRED FIFTY SEVEN THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$157,500.00) and authorizing the County Judge to execute all relevant documents.

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

- Item No. 37.** Discussion and possible action to enter into a (1) one year (November 28, 2006 through November 27, 2007) maintenance agreement with Office Communication Systems, Inc. to service a Toshiba DP-120F facsimile machine located at the County Court At Law No. 1, at a maintenance fee of TWO HUNDRED NINETY-FIVE DOLLARS PER YEAR (\$295.00 ANNUALLY) and authorizing the County Judge to sign all relevant documents [Requested by County Court At Law No. 1, Account Number 001-1010-6402 (Repairs and Maintenance of Equipment)]

Cmr. Tijerina motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

- Item No. 38.** Discussion and possible action to enter into a Vendor Agreement between Webb County for the Community Action Agency and CPL Retail Energy, WTU Retail Energy, and Direct Energy for the Neighbor Program whereby vendors will provide funding to Webb County Community Action Agency constituents to pay home energy expenses for a term beginning January 1, 2007 and ending on December 31, 2007 and authorizing the County Judge to execute all relevant documents. [Requested by Community Action Agency; 902-4200-7804 (Emergency Food and Shelter Program)]

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

- Item No. 39.** Discussion and possible action to accept grant from Texas Commission on Environmental Quality for an Environmental Coordinator/Liaison position for docketing and coordinating environmental cases among the various courts in Webb County.

Cmr. Garza motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Mr. Homero Ramirez, County Attorney, advised that Court that he had to leave for a conference and that if Executive Session items could be taken up.

Cmr. Garza motioned to move up items 67, 68, 69, and 70. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Cmr. Garza motioned to go into Executive Session. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

- Item No. 67.** Discussion regarding previous action of commissioners court (December 11, 2006) transferring slot 2166 from County Treasurer to Purchasing Agent despite protest and objection by County Treasurer, with possible action to rescind said action or alternatively, to replace transferred slot by transferring new slot to be identified by commissioners court from General Fund, and fully fund at level of slot 2166. The court may meet in Executive Session to consult with the county attorney pursuant to Section 551.071 (Attorney Client Consultation).

Mr. Homero Ramirez, County Attorney, recommended to the Court to transfer Slot #027 from Maintenance Department currently at \$8.67 with remaining balance and instruct the fully funding as it otherwise would be of slot #2166 from payroll savings in order to resolve this matter.

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve recommendation. Cmr. Tijerina seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

- Item No. 68.** Discussion and possible action to compromise and settle claims for additional damages to a vehicle owned by Rosa Blanca and Jorge Flores that was struck by a pick-up truck assigned to the Office of the Webb County Precinct One Constable on October 24, 2006. Executive Session is requested pursuant to Texas Government Code Title 5, Subchapter D, Section 551.071(Consultation with Attorney).

Mr. Homero Ramirez recommended to the Court the authority to settle with in the parameters that were discussed in Executive Session and come back to the Court with at report.

Cmr. Garza motioned to approve recommendation. Cmr. Tijerina seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

- Item No. 69.** Discussion and possible action to amend Section 8.03 of the Webb County Personnel Policies manual to address changes to the Texas County and District Retirement System plan relating to participation by all employees except temporary employees and relating to the rehiring of retirees. Executive Session is requested pursuant to Texas Government Code Title 5, Subchapter D, Section 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney).

Mr. Homero Ramirez stated that this amendment was being made so that the Webb County Personnel Policies would reflect the changes made in the Retirement System.

Cmr. Garza motioned to approved item as submitted. Cmr. Tijerina seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

- Item No. 70.** Discussion and possible action concerning request for mediation filed on behalf of Satterfield & Pontikes Construction, Inc. in connection with its contract with Webb County for the construction of the Webb County Regional Water Treatment Plant. Action may include association of outside counsel to represent Webb County in the mediation and related matters. Executive Session is requested pursuant to Texas Government Code Title 5, Subchapter D, Section 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney).

Mr. Homero Ramirez recommended to the Court to seek outside counseling for the reasons stated before. He recommended to the Court is to retain the services of Allison, Bass & Associates. He stated that this firm has dealt with the County over time. He stated that this would entail asking the Firm to conclude all mediations in favor of Webb County and also assert whatever claims and counterclaims that the County has which are several. He stated that the other action would be to name a member of the Court to go along with a member of the County Attorney's office to the mediation.

Cmr. Sciaraffa named Cmr. Sergio "Keko" Martinez as the Court's representative. Cmr. Tijerina seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Cmr. Garza motioned to approve the recommendation to seek outside counsel. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 41. Discussion and possible action authorizing the County Judge to execute an "Affidavit" and a "Project Information Sheet" prepared by the County Engineer to the Texas Department of Transportation for the construction of an "Off State System Bridge on Rubios Road at San Juanita Creek, Webb County Project CSJ: 0922-33-092.

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Tijerina seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 42. Discussion and possible action authorizing the County Engineer to give formal notification to AEP and Medina Electric to move their Utility Poles that are obstructing the flow of traffic on Colonia Roads located in Webb County. The County has acquired easements to widen the roads from 30 feet to 50 feet and 60 feet for the purpose of the installation of storm drainage structures and the pavement of said roads.

Cmr. Tijerina motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 43. Discussion and possible action authorizing Final Payment and Retainage in the amount of \$24,158.19 to CG Construction for the Fred & Anita Bruni Community Center.

Cmr. Tijerina motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 44. Discussion and possible action Granting a Temporary Construction Easement to the City of Laredo on a tract of land of 0.017 acres (4,640 sq. ft.), situated on Lot 5, Block 18 of the Western Division of the City of Laredo adjacent to Santa Ursula Avenue, south of Zaragoza Street and Authorizing the County Judge to execute the easement.

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Tijerina seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

- Item No. 45.** Discussion and possible action to fill slot # 1703, 1800 and 1802, part-time Substitute Teacher (15 hrs/week for 10 months) with an annual salary of \$4,548.60, effective January 10, 2007 through May 18, 2007.

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approved item as submitted. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

- Item No. 46.** Discussion and possible action to approve a Resolution notifying the Criminal Justice Division (CJD) of a change in the Authorized Official to County Judge Danny Valdez effective 1-1-07 for the grants received from CJD.

Cmr. Tijerina motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

- Item No. 47.** Discussion and possible action to approve the following line item transfer:
- FROM 001-0500-6402 (EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE) \$10,000.00
 - TO 001-0500-6224 (MINOR TOOLS AND APPARATUS)

 - FROM 001-0500-6402 (EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE) \$18,000.00
 - TO 001-0500-6205-01 (MATERIALS & SUPPLIES PRODUCTION)

 - FROM 001-0500-6402 (EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE) \$5,000.00
 - TO 001-0500-6205 (MATERIALS & SUPPLIES)

 - FROM 001-0500-6411 (REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE SOFTWARE) \$8,000.00
 - TO 001-0500-6205-01 (MATERIALS & SUPPLIES PRODUCTION)

Mr. Jaime F. Alvarado, MIS Director, stated that all line item transfers are within budget.

Cmr. Garza motioned to approve item submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

- Item No. 48.** Discussion and possible action to issue "Certifications Regarding Compliance with Plat Requirements and the Connection of Utilities" to authorize utility connections to the following properties:
Connection(s) qualifying under Section 232.029 (c)(1): an unplatted 0.87 acre tract of land, more or less, out of Tract 7, La Presa Subdivision, as further described in Vol. 246, Pgs. 220-225 of the Webb County Deed Records (electricity – one dwelling only);

Ms. Rhonda Tiffin, Planning Department Director, stated that everything is in compliance with Section 232.029(c)(1) of the Texas Local Government Code.

Cmr. Garza motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Tijerina seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 49. Discussion and possible action to rescind December 11, 2006 court order for item No. 49 (1 Digital Copier Lease for the District Attorney) and purchase from same proposed vendor OCS-Toshiba in the amount of \$16,450.00 through the Buy Board Purchase Price Contract #231-05 (Funded thru Certificate of Obligations, Series 2006)

Mr. Eloy Ramirez, Purchasing Agent, welcomed everyone. Mr. Ramirez stated that the above item was brought for approval being that the District Attorney decided to get a different copier.

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 50. Discussion and possible action for the Commissioners Court to appoint two (2) members of the Court to the Purchasing Board pursuant to Subchapter B §262.011(a) of the Texas Local Government Code.

Mr. Eloy Ramirez mentioned to the Court that this item had previously been approved, he recommended to table item.

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to table item. Cmr. Tijerina seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 52. Discussion and possible action to purchase the following vehicles for the Facilities Department from Philpott Motors through the Houston Galveston Area Council contract number VE03-06:FUND:722-0106-8801;BAL:\$113,000.00

One ½ ton cargo van	\$16,540.00
One ton crew cab pickup truck	\$20,694.00
Three ½ ton pickup trucks	\$63,027.00
Grand Total	\$100,261.00

Mr. Eloy Ramirez advised the Court that this purchase would be coming out of capital outlay.

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 53. Discussion and possible action to purchase the following equipment for the Auditor's office through DIR state contract pricing from the following:FUND:623-0400-8801;BAL: \$6,181.00

Qty.	Description	Vendor	Amt.
3	Personal Computers	Lenovo	\$3,678.00
	DIR-SDD-200		
4	Software	SHI	\$1,703.00
	DIR-SDD-198		

Grand Total

\$5,381.00

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Tijerina seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 54. Discussion and possible action to approve cellular phones for the following:

County Judge	National Plan 1350 minutes
Chief of Staff	National Plan 1350 minutes
County Judge's Bailiff	750 minutes
Commissioner Pct. 2	National Plan 1350 minutes
Commissioner Pct. 4	National Plan 1350 minutes
Justice of the Peace Pct. 2	National Plan 1350 minutes
Justice of the Peace Pct.1, Pl. 2	National Plan 1350 minutes

Mr. Eloy Ramirez stated that it is the policy that all elected officials get the maximum plan which is 1350 minutes.

Cmr. Garza motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 55. Discussion and possible action to retain the services of Fleet Pride to replace engine for Unit 10-03 for the Road and Bridge Department in the amount of \$8,321.83. FUND: 010-7002-6403; BAL: \$122,770.82.

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approved item as submitted. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

**Item No. 56. Discussion and possible action to award the following bids and proposal:
Bid No. 2007-64 "Raw Water Improvements for the Water Treatment Plant at Rio Bravo, Texas"**

Bid No. 2007-67 "Annual Contract for Uniforms Sheriff's Department"

Recommendation: GALLS

P-2007-04 Youth Village Geotechnical and Engineering Services

Recommendation: Carrillo and Associates

Mr. Eloy Ramirez, Purchasing Agent, stated to the Court that Mr. Tomas Rodriguez, County Engineer, was present to talk on the Bid. Mr. Rodriguez explained that he recommended negotiation with the lowest bidder by conducting "Value Engineering". Cmr. Sciaraffa asked Mr. Rodriguez who the lowest bidder was. Mr. Rodriguez stated that the lowest bidder was LEM Construction. Cmr. Garza stated that by conducting "Value Engineering" if Mr. Rodriguez was to cut back half of the price. Mr. Rodriguez stated that he was going to try to negotiate something. Judge Valdez asked Mr. Rodriguez if there was someone from the County overseeing this project and stated that it was important that the County Engineer to be seen on site. Mr. Rodriguez stated that yes someone from the County was on site.

Cmr. Garza motioned to accept negotiation with the lowest bidder on Bid 2007-64. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Mr. Ramirez recommended GALLS in Bid 2007-67 and stated that they were the only ones the submitted a bid.

Cmr. Garza motioned to approve GALLS. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Mr. Ramirez recommended Carrillo and Associates on Bid 2007-04.

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve Carrillo and Associates. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 59. Discussion and possible action to authorize the purchasing agent to purchase one digital copier 3510c from OCS-Toshiba in the amount of \$13,815.00 for the County Judge's office.

FUND: Certificates of Obligations Series 2006.

Mr. Eloy Ramirez explained that the lease has expired for this copier and that it was the copier used for the preparation of Commissioner's Court agendas.

Cmr. Tijerina motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 61. Discussion and possible action authorizing Dept. 0108, Road & Bridge/Motor Pool to fill the following slot: Slot 1370 Tire Repairman \$9.93

Cmr. Garza asked Mr. Jose Luis Ramos, Road & Bridge Superintendent, if there was a job description and it was going to go through the Human Resources Department. Mr. Ramos said that he will be submitting all job descriptions to the Human Resource Department.

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Tijerina seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 71. Adjournment

Cmr. Tijerina motioned to adjourn. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.